

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6552

AMEMBASSY SANA

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 6934

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, YE, KS

SUBJECT: ROK-YAR RELATIONS

1. KOREAN EMBASSY COUNSELOR KIM INFORMED US DEC 8 THAT THE ROK HAD PLANNED TO SEND A DELEGATION TO N. YEMEN BEGINNING DEC 11, BUT THAT IT WAS NOW PROBLEMATIC WHETHER THE VISIT WOULD TAKE PLACE DUE TO LACK OF RESPONSE FROM THE YAR EMBASSY IN JIDDA, WHICH WAS MAKING THE ARRANGEMENTS.

2. THE DELEGATION WAS TO HAVE BEEN HEADED BY ASST. FONMIN FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS HOJOONG CHOI, THE AMB IN JIDDA, THE DEFENSE ATTACHE IN JIDDA, AND COUNSELOR KIM. THE PURPOSE OF THE VISIT WAS TO FIND OUT JUST WHAT THE ROK WANTS (OR WILL ACCEPT) FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS.

3. KIM SAID THAT THE ROK PLANNED TO MAKE A MAJOR PUSH IN 1977 FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS. THEY JUDGED THAT TIME WAS PARTICULARLY APPROPRIATE BECAUSE OF N. KOREAN ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES WHICH, THEY HAD HEARD, HAD CAUSED THE N. KOREANS TO RENEGE ON SOME ASSISTANCE PROMISES TO THE YAR.

4. KIM SAID THAT THERE WAS A LIMIT TO HOW MUCH THE ROK COULD GIVE AS GRANT ASSISTANCE AND THEY WERE
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THEREFORE THINKING OF SOME KIND OF JOINT VENTURE WHICH

MIGHT BOTH SATISFY THE YEMENIS AND EVENTUALLY BE FINANCIALLY BENEFICIAL TO THE ROK.

5. KIM ASKED IF WE COULD ASSIST IN PROVIDING INFORMATION TO ENABLE THE ROKG TO COME UP WITH SENSIBLE PROPOSALS. THEY WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

- A. GRANT AID, LOANS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (AMOUNTS PLEDGED AND DELIVERED) FROM THE USSR, PRC AND N. KOREA;
- B. A GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FROM WESTERN COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY THE U.S., THE UK, THE FRG AND FRANCE;
- C. YAR POLICIES DESIGNED TO ATTRACT FOREIGN CAPITAL;
- D. AMOUNT OF YAR FOREIGN TRADE, FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVES, AND FOREIGN DEBT.

6. WE INFORMED KIM THAT WE WOULD PASS ON THE ROK REQUEST FOR INFORMATION TO OUR EMBASSY IN SANA AND DEPT OF STATE. FROM KIM'S COMMENTS IT SEEMS THE ROKG IS NOW MORE SERIOUS THAN AT ANY TIME IN THE RECENT PAST ABOUT DOING SOMETHING TO GET RELATIONS WITH THE YAR. PORTER

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